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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/560,244	12/12/2005	Toshiaki Kashihara	Q91286	4994
23373 7590 04/28/2010 SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037				
EXAMINER TAMAL KARL I				
ART UNIT 2834		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 04/28/2010		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/560,244

Applicant(s)

KASHIHARA ET AL.

Examiner

KARL I.E. TAMAI

Art Unit

2834

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 March 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-6, 10 and 13-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-6, 10 and 13-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/21/2010
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

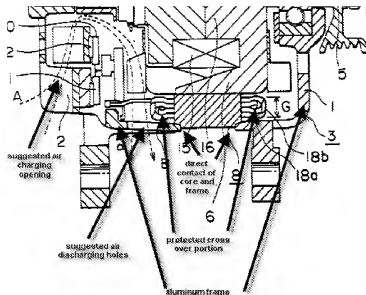
1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1, 4, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita et al. (Fujita)(US 2002/0043886) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi)(US 2003/0015932) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi '205)(US 6018205). Fujita teaches a generator for a vehicle having a rotor 6 with a field windings 15, a stator including a stator core 17 arranged opposed to the rotor and an electrical conductor wound 18 on the stator core, and a housing 3 supporting the rotor and the stator. Fujita teaches the stator core 17 is constituted by core having a plurality of slots (see figure 3) each

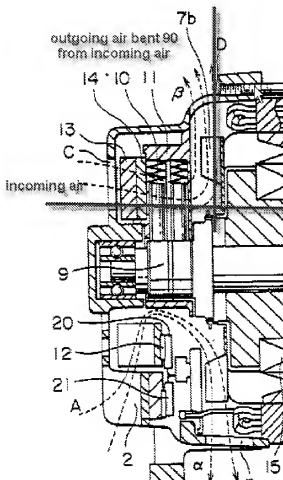
extending to an axial direction, the electrical conductor is comprised of a rectangular slot-in portion 18a located in the slots and a circular cross-over portion 18b connecting each of the slot-in portions at the shaft end side of the stator, wherein the conductor 18 is formed so that of-the slot-in portion 18a located in the slots is molded to substantially rectangular (in the press dies 102a, 102b of figure 14) in its cross-sectional profile before it is entered in the slots and the conductor of the cross-over portion 18b is substantially circular in its cross-sectional profile. Fujita teaches longer side portion of the conductor (radial side) of the slot-in portion located in the slots has an insulation coating of which thickness is smaller than that of insulation coating in the cross-over portion due to the insulating resin coating of embodiment 9 (figure 12). Fujita teaches the longer side being in the radial direction and shorter side in the circumferential direction in order to increase output by reducing the chances of magnet saturation. Fujita teaches the core 17 directly connected to the aluminum (paragraph 0103) housing 3 being endbrackets 1, 2 (see figure 1) protecting the cross over portions of the conductors. Fujita teaches the blades bending the incoming air at a right angle (see figure 1, as annotated and shown below). Fujita teaches every aspect of the invention except it does not teach the core being laminated or the conductor being a previously coated wire with the in-slot portion being substantially rectangular with the longer side having an insulation thickness smaller than the circular cross over portion and positioned in the slot with the long side in the radial direction without any air space, and the periphery of the housing having ribs and air discharge holes or the charging air holes for longitudinal incoming air.



Fujita fig. 1

Oohashi teaches the core 11 being laminated for easy insertion of the winding 60 (paragraphs 0035-0036) with a rectangular cross section at the in slot portions 16 and circular cross over portions 17. Oohashi (embodiment 7) teaches the rectangular portions are molded by pressing in a jig to provide good space factor (paragraph 0008), the previously coated insulation 14 is compressed to be thinner than the round end sections (shown in figures 23A and 23B). Oohashi teaches the flat surfaces on the sides of being in close contact with the side walls of the slot to dissipate heat though the core (paragraph 0165). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to construct the alternator of Fujita with the stator core being laminated to provide easy assembly with a superior rate of production, as taught by Oohashi, and with the conductor being a previously coated wire with the in-slot portion being substantially rectangular with the longer side having an insulation thickness smaller than the circular cross over portion to provide good space factor, as

taught by Oohashi, and with flat sides being in contact without any air space to effectively dissipate heat through the stator core as taught by Ooashi.



Fujita figure 1.

In regards to the periphery of the housing having ribs and air discharge holes or the charging air holes for longitudinal incoming air; Ohashi ('205) teaches ribs 28 and exhaust holes 29 with longitudinal charging air holes (see figure 2), and with the air bent at right angles (see fig. 2) to provide cooling and improved power generation (col. 2, lines 60-65). It would be obvious for a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to construct the generator of Fujita and Oohashi with the periphery of

the housing having ribs, air discharge holes, and charging air holes for longitudinal incoming air to provide cooling and enhanced power generation, as taught by Oohashi ('205).

Claim 4: Fujita et al. discloses a stator and conductor as in claim 1 above and further discloses that the slot-in portion is disposed on a line in the radial direction (Fig. 3).

Claim 15: Oohashi '205 discloses the plurality of fan blades draw the incoming air longitudinally from the charging air holes (see fig. 2) and exhaust the air through the discharging air holes 29. It would be obvious for a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to construct the generator of Fujita and Oohashi with the periphery of the housing having ribs, air discharge holes, and charging air holes for longitudinal incoming air to provide cooling and enhanced power generation, as taught by Oohashi ('205).

4. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita et al. (Fujita)(US 2002/0043886) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi)(US 2003/0015932) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi '205)(US 6018205), in further in view of Asao et al. (Asao)(US 6281612). Fujita, Oohashi, and Oohashi teach every aspect of the invention except the conductor of the slot in portion located in slots closely disposed on a plurality of lines in the radial direction. Asao teaches the conductor of the slot in portion located in slots closely disposed on a plurality of lines in the radial direction to provide a slot factor in the slot (Fig. 11). Asao teaches the slot in portion impregnated with resin to provide an

integral structure with the core (col. 7, line 4). It would be obvious for a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to construct the generator of Fujita, Oohashi, and Oohashi with the conductor of the slot in portion located in slots closely disposed on a plurality of lines in the radial direction to provide a slot factor in the slot, as taught by Asao.

5. Claim 6 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita et al. (Fujita)(US 2002/0043886) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi)(US 2003/0015932) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi '205)(US 6018205), in further in view of Oohashi et al.(Oohashi '958)(20020096958). Fujita and Oohashi and Oohashi teach every aspect of the invention, as discussed above, except the conductor of the in-slot portion impregnated with resin. Oohashi ('958) teaches the resin is applied to both the cross over portions and in side the slots (paragraphs 0023-0024) to reduce noise and vibration in the stator (paragraph 0003). Oohashi teaches resin in the slots and the cross over section. It would be obvious for a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to construct the generator of Fujita and Oohashi and Oohashi with the conductor of the in-slot portion impregnated with resin to reduce vibration and noise in the stator, as taught by Oohashi ('958)

6. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita et al. (Fujita)(US 2002/0043886) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi)(US 2003/0015932) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi '205)(US 6018205). Fujita and Oohashi and Oohashi teach

every aspect of the invention, as discussed above, except the cross over portion having a diameter of 1.6mm and the in-slot portion has a thickness of 1.3 mm. Fujita teaches the diameter of the cross over section and the thickness of the rectangular section are result effective variables in determining the circular and rectangular cross sections providing inexpensive conductors (paragraph 0150). It would be obvious for a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to construct the generator of Fujita and Oohashi and Oohashi with the cross over portion having a diameter of 1.6mm and the in-slot portion has a thickness of 1.3 mm to optimized the expense of the generator with the current carry capacity of the generator, as suggested by Fujita, and because it has been held that discovering an optimum value of a result effective variable involves only routine skill in the art. (see *In re Bosch*, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980).

7. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita et al. (Fujita)(US 2002/0043886) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi)(US 2003/0015932) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi '205)(US 6018205), in further in view of Yumiyama et al. (Yumiyama)(US 5587619). Fujita and Oohashi and Oohashi teach every aspect of the invention, as discussed above, except the thickness of the insulating coating on the cross over portion is 50 um and the thickness of the slot in portion is 40 um. Yumiyama teaches the thickness of the insulation is result effective to provide a high space factor in the slot with decreased magnetic resistance in the magnetic core (col. 2, line 49-62). Yumiyama teaches the thickness of the insulating coating in the um range (48 um on

the rounded surface and 30 on the flat surfaces). It would be obvious for a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to construct the generator of Fujita and Oohashi and Oohashi with the thickness of the insulating coating on the cross over portion is 50 μm and the thickness of the slot in portion is 40 μm , because Yumiyama teaches the thickness of the insulating coating on the coated is flatten to provide a high space factor with the magnetic resistance in the core decreased for a small motor with high output; and because it has been held that discovering an optimum value of a result effective variable involves only routine skill in the art. (see *In re Bosch*, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980).

8. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita et al. (Fujita)(US 2002/0043886) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi)(US 2003/0015932) and Oohashi et al. (Oohashi '205)(US 6018205), in further in view of Oohashi et al.(Oohashi '585)(US 6417585). Fujita and Oohashi and Oohashi teach every aspect of the invention, as discussed above, except the incoming air bent centrifugally. Oohashi ('585) teaches the incoming air bent centrifugally by ribs 35 to optimize power output and minimize wind noise (col. 4, lines 15-20). It would be obvious for a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to construct the generator of Fujita and Oohashi and Oohashi with the incoming air bent centrifugally to optimize power output and minimize wind noise, as taught by Oohashi ('585).

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments filed 3/30/2010 have been fully considered but they are moot in view of the new ground of rejection, as set forth above. Applicant's argument that the references do not teach "without any air space" is not persuasive. Oohashi repeated teaches the coils are in close contact with the side wall of the slot (paragraphs 0023, 0029, 0089, 0095, 144, 165, 0194, 203) to dissipate heat into the core, therefore Oohashi provides LITERAL motivation for the conductors to contact the slots without air gaps, to maximize the heat transfer from the conductors to the stator core as taught by Oohashi. The statement is not conclusive or speculative when it is based on the references themselves. Applicant's arguments regarding the laminated core being directly held by the metal frames is not persuasive because the core is clearly shown as being held by aluminum frames (as discussed above in Fujita). Applicant's arguments regarding the ribs is not persuasive because they are common in alternators as shown by Oohashi '205 (as discussed above). Applicant's argument that Oohashi does not teach the slot in portions of the conductors is not persuasive because the Applicant is not considering the combined teachings of Fujita, Oohashi and Oohashi '205. (See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986), holding one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references). Fujita and Oohashi show the end brackets supports the stator but do not specifically show the end brackets from the axial side. Oohashi '205 was added merely

to show that the ribs forming the openings for discharging the air/heat from the alternator is known. The rejection is proper and maintained.

Conclusion

10. This is a Request for Continued Examination application. All claims are drawn to the same invention claimed in the earlier application and could have been finally rejected on the grounds and art of record in the next Office action if they had been entered in the earlier application. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL** even though it is a first action in this case. See MPEP § 706.07(b). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no, however, event will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karl I.E. Tamai whose telephone number is (571) 272 - 2036.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mrs. Quyen Leung, can be reached at (571) 272 - 8188. The facsimile number for the Group is (571) 273 - 8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Karl I Tamai/
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER
April 23, 2010